

## Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 AID-20 RSR-01

/107 W

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P R 162058Z JUL 73

FM AMENASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2854

INFO USCINCSO

DID DOD WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 5098

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJ: RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT CAMPORA: SITREP NO 9

1. SUMMARY: RUCCI SPEECH CONTAINED LITTLE NEW. ELECTIONS JKE TO BE HELD UNDER OLY SYSTEM OF INDIRECT ELECTION THROUGH ELECTORAL COLLEGE. MATTER OF TICKET STILL UP IN AIR. END SUMMARY.

2. CGT LEADER JOSE RUCCI'S SPEECH ON AFTERNOON JULY 14 CONTAINED NOTHING NOTEWORTHY EXCEPT DECLARATION THAT PERON WOULD BE THE CANDIDATE--A SURPRISE TO NO ONE (AND, COMING FROM RUCCI, SB MORE OFFICIAL THAN IT WAS BEFORE).

3. PRESIDENT LASTIRI LATE JULY 14 CLARIFIED THAT COMING ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD UNDER TRADITIONAL SYSTEM, I.E. CHAPTER II OF CONSTITUTION AND SAENZ PENA LAW, AND NOT RPT NOT UNDER ELECTORAL LAW  
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PROMULGATED BY LANUSSE GOVT WHICH NOW APPARENTLY GOES TO DUST BIN.

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT WILL AGAIN BE ELECTED BY ELECTORAL COLLEGE APPOINTED ON BASIS POPULAR VOTE, AND APPARENTLY, UNLESS THERE IS SOME CONSTITUTIONAL ADJUSTMENT, TERM WILL BE FOR SIX YEARS-THOUGH THERE IS STILL CONSIDERABLE UNCERTAINTY CONCERNING THIS LAST POINT.

4. PRESS QUOTES HIGH-RANKING UCR SOURCE (PROBABLY SENATOR LUIS LEON OF CHACO) AS COMMENTING AFTER MEETING OF UCR COUNCIL ON JULY 14 THAT PROSPECTS FOR JOINT TICKET ARE MUCH IMPROVED WITHIN UCR. EMBASSY NOW POLLING ITS OWN UCR CONTACTS WITH VIEW TO PREPARING SEPTEL ANALYZING PROSPECTS AND MODALITIES OF JOINT TICKET.

5. PERONIST CONTACTS, MEANWHILE, CONTINUE TO HEDGE ON MATTER OF BALBIN'S CANDIDACY. "THAT MAY BE WHAT PRESS INDICATES,/ THEY SAY, "BUT DON'T BE TOO SURE." SINCE THEY CAN POINT TO NO OTHER LIKELY RUNNING MATE, HOWEVER, WE INTERPRET THEIR HEDGING AS MATTER OF NECESSARY RESERVE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS BALBIN CAN NAIL DOWN HIS OWN PARTY. WELL-INFORMED ARGENTINE NEWSMAN TELLS US LOPEZ REGA'S STAFF HAS SUGGESTED TO HIM THAT ARMY CINC CARCAGNO OR LOPEZ REGA HIMSELF MIGHT BE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. WE (AND NEWSMAN WHO WAS SOURCE) BELIEVE THIS UNLIKELY. IF LOPEZ REGA IS FLOATING POSSIBILITY IT IS PROBABLY WITH OBJECTIVE OF PRESSURING RADICALES TO SUPPORT BALBIN OR FACE LOSING OUT ALTOGETHER. AT SAME TIME, HOWEVER, SHOULD LATTER BE UNABLE TO SWING HIS PARTY TOWARD JOINT TICKET, WE WOULD NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT LOPEZ REGA MIGHT END UP AS RUNNING MATE--ESPECIALLY SINCE HE AND SON-IN-LAW RAUL LASTIRI, ALONG WITH PERON HIMSELF, WERE OBVIOUSLY CHIEF ARCHITECTS OF CAMPORA REMOVAL. LOPEZ REGA IS NOT AVERSE TO PUSHING LOPEZ REGA.

6. MONTONEROS AND FAR ISSUED STATEMENT ON JULY 14 WHICH EXPRESSED APPROVAL OF MOVE TO OPEN WAY FOR PERON'S CANDIDACY. IN STRANGEST PIECE OF ANALYSIS YET SEEN, STATEMENT INDICATED MOVE WAS NECESSARY SO THAT PERON COULD CONTAIN IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY AND PREDICTED THAT HE WOULD NOW DEAL FIRMLY WITH SUCH IMPERIALIST AGENTS AS LOPEZ REGA AND JOSE RUCCI. JUXTAPOSED WITH THIS PREDICTION WAS EXPRESSION OF PUZZLEMENT AS TO WHY ALEJANDRO DIAZ BIALET HAD BEEN BYPASSED FOR LOPEZ REGA'S SON-IN-LAW RAUL LASTIRI.

7. SINCE MOVE IS SO OBVIOUSLY NOT A LEFT-WING, BUT RATHER, IN  
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ALFONSIN'S WORDS, "A RIGHT-WING COUP," IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER FAR-MONTONERO ANALYSIS IS TONGUE IN CHEEK, NAIVE, OR SIMPLY TRYING TO PUT BEST POSSIBLE FACE ON THINGS AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

8. THIS MESSAGE CONCLUDES CURRENT SERIES OF SITREPS. MISSION IS REVERTING TO REGULAR REPORTING SERIES.  
KREBS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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